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DATE: March 2, 2004
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TO: EXAMINER KARLA A. MOORE
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COMPANY: USPTO
FROM: ROBB D. EDMONDS
PAGE(S) with cover: 13
ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW? YES NO

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 2, 2003

TITLE: APPARATUS HAVING PLATFORMS POSITIONED FOR
PRECISE CENTERING OF SEMICONDUCTOR WAFERS
DURING PROCESSING
U.S. SERIAL NO.: 09/755,516
FILING DATE: JANUARY 4, 2001
INVENTOR: SCHIEVE, ET AL.
EXAMINER: KARLA A. MOORE
GROUP ART UNIT: 1763
CONFIRMATION NO.: 5078

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256362_1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Eric W. Schieve, et al.

Serial No.: 09/755,516

Confirmation No.: 5078

Filed: January 4, 2001

For: **Apparatus Having
Platforms Positioned For
Precise Centering Of
Semiconductor Wafers
During Processing**

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: Moore, Karla A.

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<p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted on March 2, 2004 to the central fax number, (703) 872-9306, provided by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.</p>	
<u>3/2/2004</u> Date	<u><i>Robert D. Edwards</i></u> Signature

Dear Sir;

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 2, 2003

In response to the Office Action dated December 2, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 2, 2004, please enter this Response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$122.00 for one additional independent claim and two total claims to counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/5320.Y1/BTP, and any extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this Response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.